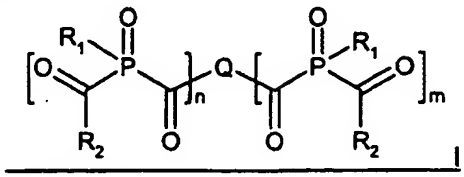
In the Claims:

1-2 **(cancelled)**

1 3. **(currently amended)** Process for the preparation of dimer or multimer forms of BAPO compounds of the formula I, ~~according to claim 1,~~



I

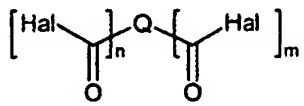
wherein

R_1 is unsubstituted or substituted C_1-C_{12}alkyl, benzyl, C_1-C_{12}alkoxy or C_3-C_8cycloalkyl;

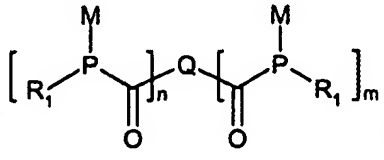
R_2 is unsubstituted or substituted C_3-C_8cycloalkyl or C_5-C_{14}aryl;

Q is a di-tri or tetravalent arylene residue;

n is 1-4, m is 0-2, n+m is 2, 3 or 4.

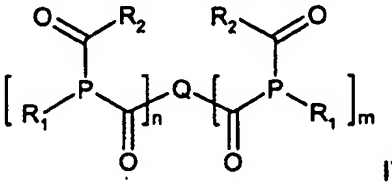
characterized in that (n + m) equivalents of a dimetalated-phosphine $R_1P(M)_2$ are reacted with one equivalent of a di-or polycarboxylic acid halogenide 

to form an intermediate of the formula III



III

the intermediate III is then reacted with (n + m) equivalents of a further carboxylic acid halogenide (R_2-CO-Hal) to form dimer or multimer forms of **bisacyl**phosphine-intermediates of the formula IV



IV,

said phosphines IV are then oxidized to form phosphine oxides of the formula I,

wherein M is Li, Na or K, ~~; and R_1, R_2, Q, n and m are as defined in claim 1.~~

4-7 **(cancelled)**

1

~~8~~ 7. **(previously presented)** Process according to claim ~~8~~ 1, wherein M is Li and wherein the process is carried out in an inert atmosphere at a temperature from -20 to 80°C.

9-21 **(cancelled)**